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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Noriyuki Kanno et al.
Confirmation No: 3638
Serial No. : 10/525,335 ✓
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Examiner :

Docket No. : 05-212
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit the prior art listed hereinbelow, copies enclosed, which prior art was cited in the corresponding European patent application.

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 4,434,931;
- (2) JP Patent No. 7-160933;
- (3) U.S. Patent No. 6,227,343; and
- (4) U.S. Patent No. 5,991,887.

A listing on Form PTO-1449 is enclosed along with a copy of the non-U.S. documents.

The undersigned hereby certifies that each item contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in the European search report issued on September 26, 2005.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

Noriyuki Kanno et al.

By 

Gregory P. LaPointe
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No.: 28,395
Tel: (203) 777-6628
Fax: (203) 865-0297

Date: November 8, 2005

I, Rachel Piscitelli, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on November 8, 2005.



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